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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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SUBJECT

Spanish Communist Activities in Southern France

DIST.

30 December 1946

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PAGES

SUPPLEMENT

ODIGIN

ORIGIN 25X1X6

Befections in Spanish Communist Party Ranks

1. According to information of 22 November 1946 from Toulouse, Spanish Communist leaders are concerned over the large number of desertions from their organizations in France. During the previous few months, approximately six hundred persons reportedly left Communist ranks, although the result of the elections in France appears to have arrested this trend to some extent.

Communist Arms Depots

2. Source states that the arms and munitions in Communist-controlled depots in southern France were collected for the most part during the struggle for the liberation of France and are of less importance than is generally believed. The weapons are too diverse in type to be used effectively in large scale operations. In case of armed conflict, the Spanish Communists in France reportedly hope to be able to obtain a considerable amount of material from abroad, chiefly from Yugoslavia.

Communist Lisison with the Interior of Spain

3. According to source, the Communists are the only exile Spanish group whose liaison with the interior of Spain is perfectly organized. Regular contact through well-connected links is maintained.

The Fernandez Vallador Company

- 4. The Communists arriving from the interior are put on the payroll of the Fernandez Vallador lumber company of St. Simon. After obtaining documentation, most of these persons transfer to Paris or to some other place in which their organization is interested, although in some cases their names remain registered on the company's lists of workers.
- 5. Fernandez Vallador is an Asturian, who after the liberation of France placed himself at the service of the Communist-dominated Union Nacional Espanola.*

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Comment: Although it would appear from disseminated on 4 February 1946, that the Sociedad Fernandez Vallador derives its name from those of General Luis Fernandez and a Colonel Vallador, it is believed that the information (continued next page)

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The Communists put at his disposal part of the sums of money which they had "requisitioned" at the time of the liberation. According to source, by late November 1946, the usefulness of the Fernandez Vallador company had diminished considerably for the Communists, since many who were camouflaged in it as workers had been transferred permanently to other places, although the Communists continued to use it as cover for their guerrilla troops. Other workers in the company have become dissatisfied and have obtained employment elsewhere. One reason for their discontent is that approximately one third of their wages is withheld for expenses of the organization and to support the guerrilla troops who do not work. The organization's sales of firewood have diminished and the company is said to be operated less efficiently than formerly.

6. Automobiles used by the Communist organization are carried as property of the Fernandez Vallador company. Fernandez Vallador has an automobile repair shop in Lacourtensourt, which is some fourteen kilometers from Toulouse. A certain Francisco Castanar is in charge of this shop. Recently, the Communists spent about 50,000 francs to but the place in good condition. Some thirty workers are employed there, all of whom are Spanish Communists. According to source, an average of thirty automobiles which are used for Communist activities usually are under repair at the shop. In late November, the Communists were offering four trucks for sale as surplus material.

Plan to Form a New Veterans Organization

7. A CNT member by the name of Pascual, who formerly belonged to the Union Nacional Espanola, considers that the Spanish resistance movement in France is being exploited by the Communists and proposes to establish a new Asociacion de Antiguos FTI y Resistentes Espanoles (Association of Former FFI's and Spanish Resistants), which will be free of Communist influence. He hopes to enroll in it former fighters of the LeClerc Division and of other units which fought with the Allies. Pascual contends that the Communists claim too much credit for the service rendered by Spanish emigres to the Allies during the German occupation. He contacted Hernandez del Castillo, who is in charge of the information service attached to the Giral Government's War Ministry; the latter offered to do what he could to secure the approval of the Association by the Prefecture of Toulouse. Castillo also said that he would get in touch with the Basoues, who figured prominently in the fight against the Germans.

Communist Dossiers on Prominent Socialists

8. According to source, the Communists have a number of dossiers on the activities of certain Spanish Socialists during the German occupation of France, which they intend to use if a crisis is provoked in the Giral Government by the Socialists. Should it seem expedient, the Communists reportedly mean to accuse of collaborationist activity, among others, Enrique de Francisco and Rodolfo Llopis, President and Secretary General respectively of the Spanish Socialist Party in France. De Francisco is the Minister of National Economy in the Giral Government.

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*Comment continued) given above on Fernandez Vallador is correct, since reference has been made to Fernandez Vallador as an individual by two sources. Confusion may have arisen from the fact that General Luis Fernandez is known as a guerrilla leader. Colonel Vallador may be Fernandez Vallador. See for 25X1A2g previous information on the activities of the Fernandez Vallador commany.

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